• Joined the Department of Computer Science in July 1989 as a research assistant

• Simultaneously studied for a PhD which was awarded in March 1994

• EPSRC Post-doctoral Fellowship 1994-1995

• Appointed to a lectureship in 1995, promoted to reader in 2001, and to a chair in 2006

• Served as Director of LFCS 2011-2014

• Served as Director of Research and Deputy Head of School 2016-2018
• Joined the Department of Computer Science in July 1989 as a research assistant

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• Appointed to a lectureship in 1995, promoted to reader in 2001, and to a chair in 2006

• Served as Director of LFCS 2011-2014

• Served as Director of Research and Deputy Head of School 2016-2018
• ~430 staff, inc.:
  ~130 Academic staff
  ~200 Research staff
  ~75 Administrative staff
  ~20 Computing staff
  ~9 Technician staff

• ~1650 students:
  ~940 Undergraduates
  ~400 MSc Students
  ~300 PhD Students

This all represents significant growth/success since we moved into the building 10 years ago.
Notable recent successes

- Strong research portfolio and record level of successful research grant applications
- Record number of applications for student places at both UG and PGT level
- Improved NSS scores, with significant increase in student satisfaction
- Continued growth of the academic staff, and growth of the support staff
• 13% increase in research grant applications (by value) but a 22% decrease in the number of applications in 17/18 compared with 16/17

• 35% increase in research grants awarded (by value) with a 10% increase in number that were successful in 17/18 compared with 16/17

• Total award value was £22,788,000

• This exceeded the University target for the School which was £21,138,000
• The School had the largest % increase in overall satisfaction across the University, going from 72.7% in 2017 to 84% in 2018

• We went from 20th out of 21 Schools in the University, and 7th out of 7 Schools in College to being 6th out of 21 in the University and 2nd out of 7 in the College

• Our scores improved on nearly all measures, with particular improvement on “learning community”, but there is still much room for improvement
Major drivers of change

• The City Deal represents the start of a new relationship between the University and the City and brings some KPI which will require different ways of interacting

• The University has a renewed focus on teaching, and discussions at the highest level about how to recognise and reward good teaching, as well as challenge bad teaching

• Support services within the University are under-going major changes through the “Service Excellence” programme

• Brexit is likely to bring about changes in both research funding and the student body
Opportunities and Challenges

• Restructuring of Research Services, Finance and Administration

• Five strong CDT bids have been submitted

• Bayes and the City Deal

• Continued growth of student numbers across all programmes, and a changing cohort profile

• Continued growth within the School staff within all groupings without similar growth in our space
Key messages

- We are lucky to work in a School which has such a wealth of opportunities

- The University is going through a period of change and some changes are beyond our control

- Nevertheless we should welcome new opportunities and not be afraid of new ways of working

- Together we can go from strength to strength
Student Wellbeing

Andy Shanks
Director of Student Wellbeing
Mock REF exercise

- **Informatics + EPCC submission** to mock REF
  - 141 eligible researchers (126 FTE)
  - 316 outputs (1 per researcher + 175 from “open list”)
  - 9 impact case studies
  - Feedback to staff via institutes

- **Outputs** (papers – originality, significance, rigour)
  - 613 outputs were assessed by a panel of 10 people
  - Very strong portfolio of outputs
  - Self-improvement

1. **Quality** over quantity: one paper of the highest quality
2. Focus on the **100 words** – need to concisely explain the significance of each submitted output (venue, citations, etc. alone not enough)
Mock REF exercise

• **Impact** (reach and significance)
  – Current population of 15-20 draft impact case studies (from about 35 possibilities)
  – Final submitted impact case studies will be chosen based on
    1. Evidence showing the link between UoE research and the impact
    2. Level of impact by July 2020
  – Björn Franke now coordinating REF Impact

• **Environment.** Compared with REF-2104
  – Increased research funding – up by 34% per person per year
  – Increased number of PhD graduates, although PhD graduates per person per year
    stable (more eligible staff)

• **Informatics REF team**
  – Victoria Lindstrom, Janet Ball, Björn Franke, Steve Renals
  
  [http://web.inf.ed.ac.uk/infweb/research/ref](http://web.inf.ed.ac.uk/infweb/research/ref)
Student Admissions

Stuart Anderson
Undergraduate
## Overall Undergraduate

**Informatics: Gender - All, Fee Status - All**

All Subjects - Informatics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>App'ctns</th>
<th>Offers</th>
<th>UFs</th>
<th>Enrols.</th>
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## International

Informatics: Gender - All, Fee Status - Overseas

### All Subjects - Informatics

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# Women

Informatics: Gender - F, Fee Status - All

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<td>2017/8</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018/9</td>
<td>739</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>90</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Summary

• Our planning target was 270 – actual of 286 is close.
• We were concerned we could reach over 300 students in first year:
  – based on 12% “no-show” from international students
  – actually around 20% of international students with unconditional offers did not enroll.
• Womens’ enrollment rate increased across the board – over 30% of first year students are women.
• Our first year courses are gaining in popularity – Informatics 1A has an enrollment of 404…
Postgraduate
## Overall – Taught Postgraduate

Informatics: Gender - All, Fee Status - All

All Subjects - Informatics

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>App'ctns</th>
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<th>Offers</th>
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<td>76</td>
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</table>

www.inf.ed.ac.uk
# International

Informatics: Gender - All, Fee Status - Overseas

All Subjects - Informatics

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Session</th>
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<th>Enrols.</th>
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<td>2018/9</td>
<td>3,057</td>
<td>886</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>275</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Women

Informatics: Gender - F, Fee Status - All  
All Subjects - Informatics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>App'ctns</th>
<th>+ / -</th>
<th>Offers</th>
<th>+ / -</th>
<th>UF's</th>
<th>+ / -</th>
<th>Enrols.</th>
<th>+ / -</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>2014/5</td>
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<td>91</td>
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<td>48</td>
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<td>2017/8</td>
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<td>-6</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>2018/9</td>
<td>1,264</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Summary

• This year we fully implemented the deposit scheme and believed that would reduce intakes.
• We closed programmes early in April to control intake.
• The proportion of “no-shows” reduced significantly this year.
• We have 34% women in the intake this year.
• The most popular courses are heavily overloaded
UG and PGT actions under discussion

• UG:
  – Target 250 undergraduate intake
  – Quota first year courses at 300

• PGT:
  – Target 300 intake overall.
  – Tighten the specification of the individual programmes
  – Set individual intake targets for the programmes
  – For the most popular courses:
    • Split UG/PGT versions of the courses
    • Impose a quota to limit the class size
    • Inform students that on quotaed courses those with the course in their DPT will have priority.
  – Close programmes earlier, 31 January
Recruitment summary

- 344 research students currently studying in Informatics
  - From 57 countries: 27.3% UK, 41.3% EU, 31.4% OS
  - Spread among 6 Institutes (20-70 in each)

- Applications up 15% on 2017-18

- 78 new this year, selected from 781 applicants
  - 22% female, 78% male
  - 19% UK, 38% EU, 43% International

- 49 new PhD students, 3 new MScR students
  - starting Aug (2), Sept (33), Oct-Feb (17)

- 27 new students in Centres for Doctoral Training
  - 13 in Data Science
  - 5 in Robotics & Autonomous Systems (10 more at Herriot Watt)
  - 8 in Pervasive Parallelism

- Increasing proportion of applicants are Overseas fee-status
  - Increase is not matched by a capacity to fund more Overseas students
  - This limits our ability to expand PGR numbers

- We’re still making offers for 2018-19 entry, so final numbers will rise

1. IGS recruitment figures compiled 28/09/2018
PGR applications received for 2018 entry

- 15% increase on YTD
- Late start to applications in Autumn of 2017
- Surge of applications in late Nov and Dec 2017
- Applications for 2018 entry still arriving!
- IGS still able to top-up studentships if needed, for in-year recruits
PGR applications - analysis

- **Highlights**
  - Applications up across most Institutes, except LFCS
  - Data Science CDT remains very popular

- **Lowlights**
  - Ppar-CDT applications down 29%
  - LFCS applications down 3%

- **Observations**
  - Slight improvement in gender balance of applications compared to 2017
  - DS-CDT receives 36% of all PGR applications
  - UK applications static
  - EU/EEA applications down 6%
  - Overseas applications up 6%
PGR offers and conversions

- 114 offers made
- 78 offers accepted
- +3 offers pending

- Wide variation in conversion rate by Institute and CDT
  - 87% conversion for DS-CDT
  - 54% conversion for LFCS

- Higher conversion rate among female candidates than male candidates

- Lower than average conversion rate for Overseas candidates
PGR starts – Sept to Feb

- All CDT students have now started
- Most Institutes have significant numbers of PGR starts in Oct – Feb
- Again, desk space was almost (but not quite) a limiting factor in 2018 recruitment
PGR funding for 2017/18 recruitment

• IGS funds enabled 23 student places
  – 3 project-based IGS studentships awarded (all jointly funded externally)
  – 10 overseas fee top-ups
  – 4 partial studentship top-ups
  – 2 Enlightenment scholarships
  – 1 MSR scholarship
  – 3 PCDS scholarships

• EPSRC funding
  – 10 EPSRC DTA scholarships awarded
  – NPIF scholarships – 2 extra places this year
  – EPSRC CASE conversion – 1 extra place awarded by College

• University Scholarships awarded
  – 3 Principals Career Development scholars (PCDS)
  – 2 Edinburgh Global scholars (EGRS)
PGR funding – 2017/18 outlook

• Major unknown is how many CDTs will be awarded
• Modest interim IGS budget for 2018/19, pending CDT bid outcomes

• EPSRC
  – DTA budget – no change expected (~9 studentships)
  – Not expecting a repeat of NPIF
  – Small amount of unallocated EPSRC funds from previous years

• MSR scholarships
  – Call open now, deadline 12th October

• Google & IBM scholarships
  – Calls open now, deadlines soon

• Revision of Enlightenment, PCDS, EGRS underway
  – Outcome expected during the current recruitment cycle
The Turing Trust

Jane Hillston